Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

763
h5

FOREIGN AGRICULTURE REPORT

OFFICE OF
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

WORLD FLAXSEED SITUATION 1949

NOV 17 1949

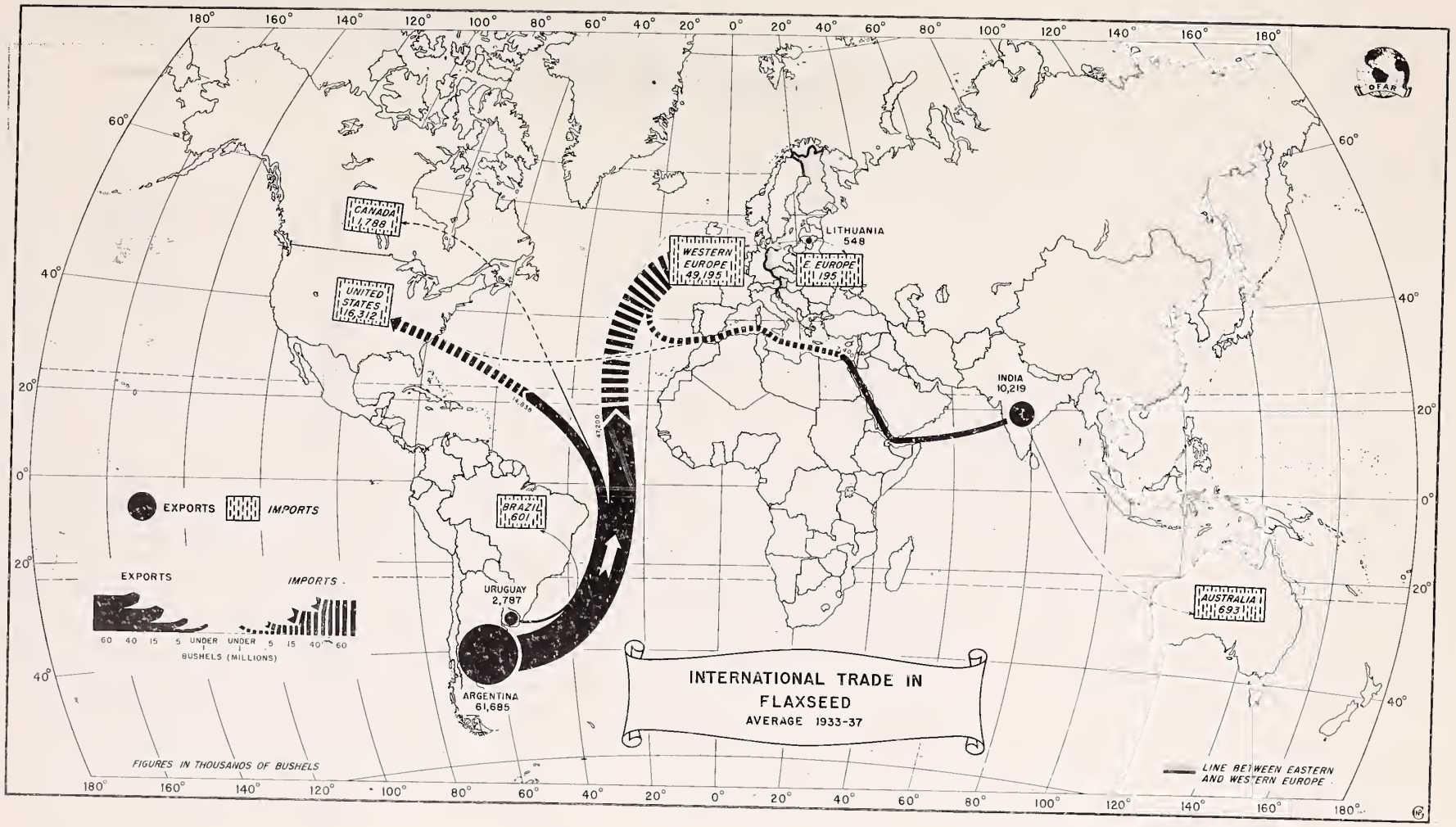
by

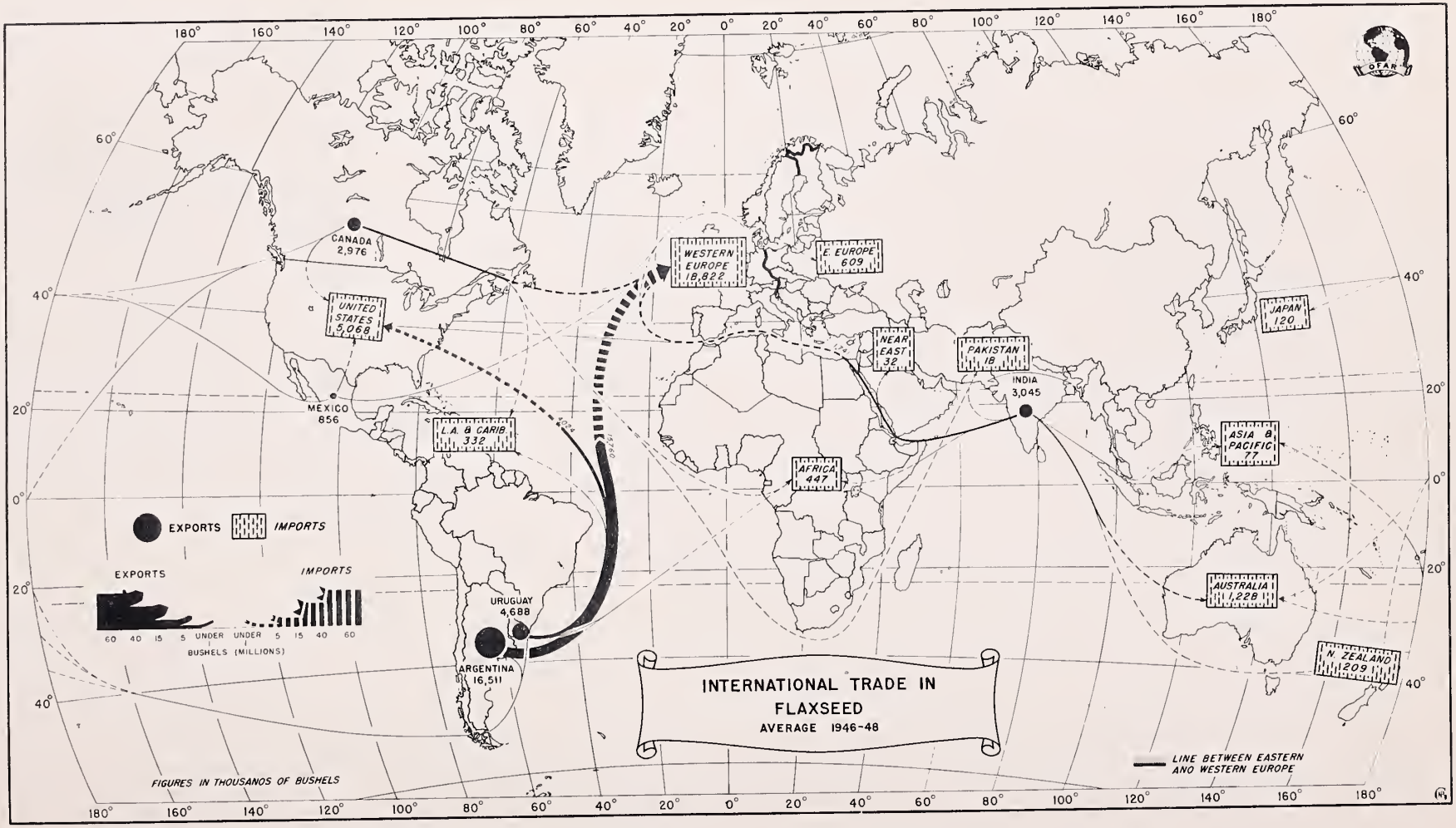
REGINA H. BOYLE
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST

FOREIGN AGRICULTURE REPORT No. 41 SEPTEMBER 1949

CONTENTS

	Page
Production	4
North America	5
Europe	8
Asia	8
South America	9
Africa	10
Oceania	10
Problems of Major Producing Countries	10
United States	10
Argentina	11
Uruguay	12
India and Pakistan	12
Canada	14
Mexico	14
Outlook	14
Appendix	


CANADA
788
UNITED STATES
16,312
WESTERN EUROPE
49,195
LITHUANIA
548
E. EUROPE
195
INDIA
10,219
BRAZIL
601
URUGUAY
2,787
ARGENTINA
61,685
AUSTRALIA
693
EXPORTS
IMPORTS
EXPORTS
IMPORTS
60 40 15 5 UNDER UNDER 5 15 40 60
BUSHELS (MILLIONS)
FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF BUSHELS
INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN FLAXSEED
AVERAGE 1933-37
LINE BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE
OFAR


CANADA 2,976
UNITED STATES 5,068
MEXICO 856
L. A. & CARIB 332
URUGUAY 4,688
ARGENTINA 16,511
WESTERN EUROPE 18,822
E. EUROPE 609
NEAR EAST 32
PAKISTAN 18
INDIA 3,045
AFRICA 447
JAPAN 120
ASIA & PACIFIC 77
AUSTRALIA 1,228
N. ZEALAND 209
EXPORTS
IMPORTS
EXPORTS
IMPORTS
60 40 15 5 UNDER UNDER 5 15 40 60
BUSHELS (MILLIONS)
INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN
FLAXSEED
AVERAGE 1946-48
FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF BUSHELS
LINE BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE

WORLD FLAXSEED SITUATION, 1949

By Regina H. Boyle, Agricultural Economist

World flaxseed production, trade, and consumption have taken some unexpected turns during the postwar period, and the situation in 1949 is unique. There are large stocks of flaxseed and linseed oil in Canada, the United States, and Argentina; there is a relative abundance of low-priced competing oils; the prewar large consuming countries in Europe lack an effective demand; and production in most of South America has declined. Consequently the future position of flaxseed in world markets is uncertain.

Large stocks accumulated partly because only small quantities of flaxseed and linseed oil moved in international trade during 1948 despite the apparent need for linseed oil, particularly in the war-torn areas where construction activity is great. Three major factors have retarded exports, especially to Europe where the need is greatest. First, some producing countries, notably Argentina, are inclined to offer only linseed oil. The European countries have an established crushing industry and prefer to import flaxseed. Second, the price of flaxseed and linseed oil in producing areas was relatively high during most of the 1948 crop year. Third, the shortage of dollars in the deficit countries in Europe and elsewhere has encouraged domestic production of flaxseed. The 1948 European flaxseed production, while still small, was more than 50 percent greater than the prewar average.

Flaxseed and linseed oil consumption in Europe, excluding the Soviet Union, averaged more than 500,000 short tons (in terms of oil) in prewar years. The United Kingdom and Germany were the largest consumers. Consumption in 1948 is difficult to determine because of the unknown stock position in important consuming countries, but utilization probably did not exceed 300,000 tons.

The volume of flaxseed produced by various countries has undergone marked changes in recent years. As a result, North America has displaced South America as the world's leading producer. Output in North America rose from a prewar average of 13 million bushels to 71 million in 1948, while South American production fell from an average of 64 million bushels to 26 million in 1948. The reduction was confined to Argentina. Uruguay has maintained about the same output from year to year, while Chile and Brazil have increased their flaxseed crops (chart 1).

Table 1.--EUROPE (including Turkey): Flaxseed and linseed oil (in terms of oil) consumption by country, 1947 with comparisons

(Short tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1946	1947 1/
ECA countries 2/:			
Austria	5,704	381	428
Belgium-Luxembourg	40,052	17,355	13,155
Denmark	8,271	894	5,043
Eire	2,100	2,338	2,539
France	83,882	31,624	44,326
Greece	2,294	1,495	1,235
Iceland	145	---	---
Italy	26,213	2,638	7,216
Netherlands	41,794	20,464	22,070
Norway	9,458	4,560	1,811
Portugal	3,089	885	162
Sweden	20,058	12,533	18,061
Switzerland	5,911	3,702	4,336
Turkey	2,653	---	3,896
United Kingdom	126,173	107,606	3/ 147,516
Total	377,797	206,475	271,794
Other European countries:			
Albania	40	---	---
Bulgaria	1,034	95	447
Czechoslovakia	10,900	2,637	2,494
Estonia	63	---	---
Finland	6,822	2,202	1,171
Germany	105,164	5,141	6,857
Hungary	3,043	895	962
Latvia	6,531	---	---
Lithuania	3,627	---	---
Poland	15,246	3,494	3,808
Rumania	1,249	1,304	1,409
Spain	5,588	514	112
Yugoslavia	3,338	381	369
Total	162,645	16,663	17,629
Grand total	540,442	223,138	289,423

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Excluding Bizonal Germany. 3/ Probably includes year-end stocks. 4/ Excluding the Soviet Union.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

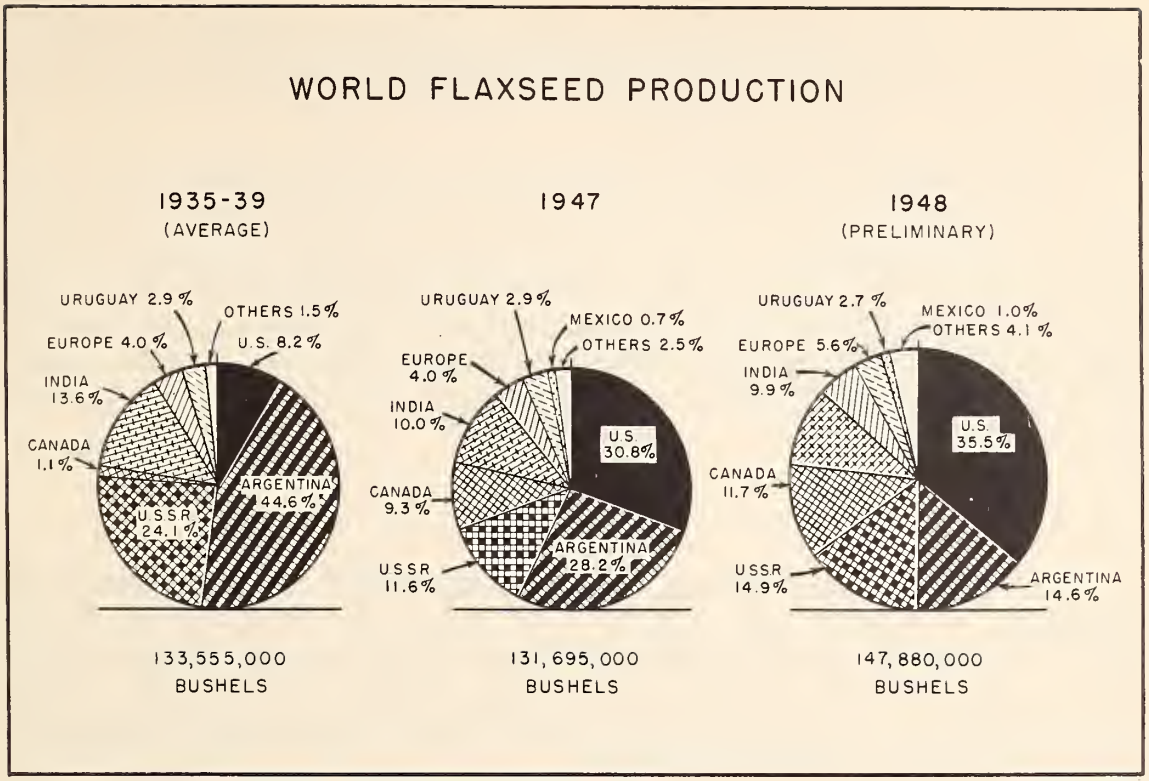


Chart 1.--World flaxseed production.

A significant change in world trade has been a shift from the export of flaxseed to the export of linseed oil. World flaxseed exports (chart 2), chiefly from South America and India, averaged approximately 75 million bushels during 1935-39 but decreased to less than 5 million in 1947. During the same period, linseed oil exports from flaxseed-producing countries increased from 3,400 tons to about 290,000 tons (chart 3). In 1948, exports of flaxseed and linseed oil (250,000 tons in terms of oil, table 5) were less than half of the normal import requirements of European countries alone. Only 9.7 million bushels of seed and 140,000 tons of oil (233,000 tons as oil equivalent) were exported from the six major producing countries. Of these quantities, 76 percent of the seed and 28 percent of the oil originated in the normally net importing countries--Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

Stocks of flaxseed and linseed oil (in terms of seed) in the important producing countries probably were well in excess of 100 million bushels on July 1, 1949. At least 90 percent of these stocks was in the Western Hemisphere.

According to trade estimates, between 18 and 20 million bushels of flaxseed were being held by the IAPI (Argentine Trade Promotion Institute). The linseed oil holdings are estimated at about 330,000 short tons. Actual supplies within the country may be larger since very little of the linseed oil contracted for in trade negotiations has been shipped.

On July 1 the United States stocks consisted of about 19 million bushels of flaxseed and 170,000 tons of linseed oil, or a total of 36 million bushels in terms of seed. Stocks were the largest ever held in this country at the end of a crop year.

Canada began the 1949-50 season with a record flaxseed carry-over of 10.7 million bushels. Mexico's stocks are small, possibly less than 100,000 bushels. Uruguay is one of the few flaxseed exporting countries that has disposed of its surplus seed and oil. During January-May 1949, flaxseed shipments from Uruguay amounted to 702,200 bushels and linseed oil 16,000 tons (total as flaxseed 2,386,200 bushels). India's stock position is not available, but surplus supplies of seed and oil are probably not excessive.

PRODUCTION

World flaxseed production in 1948, estimated at 148 million bushels, was about 12 percent higher than in 1947 (table 2). The Argentine crop was much smaller than expected, but this reduction was offset to some extent by gains in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and several minor producing areas. The countries of North America accounted for approximately half of the 1948 production.

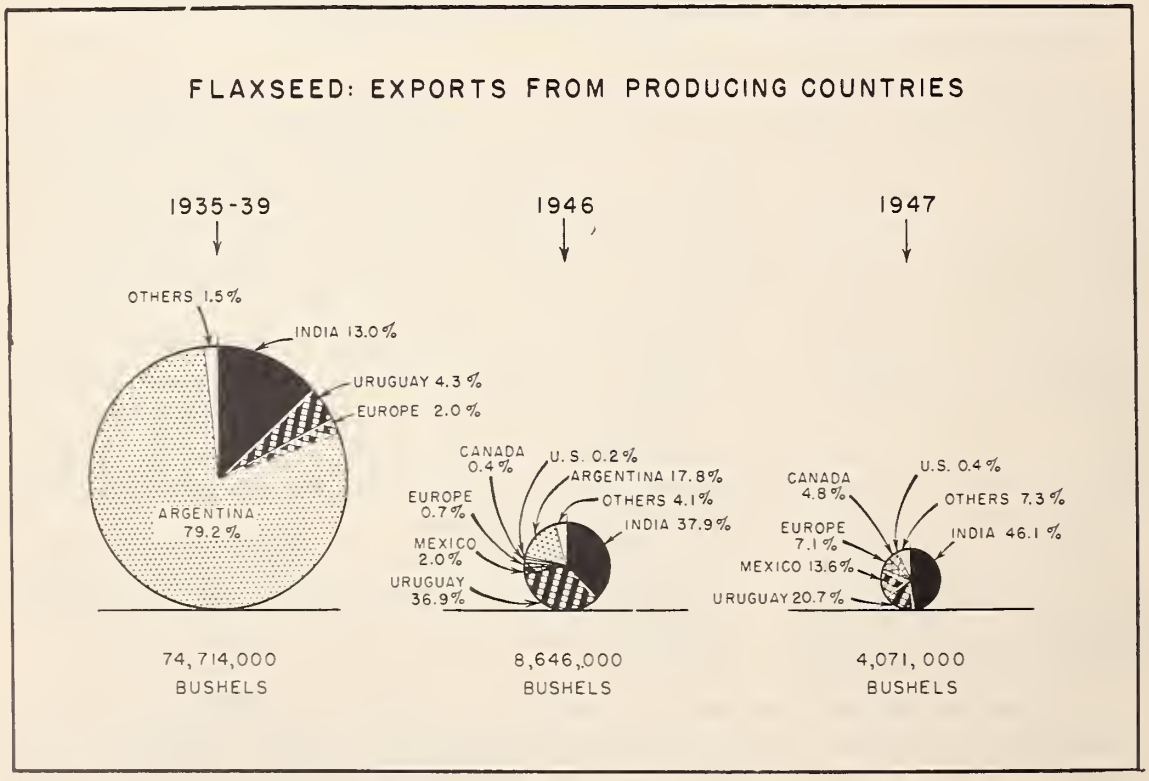


Chart 2.--Flaxseed: Exports from producing countries.

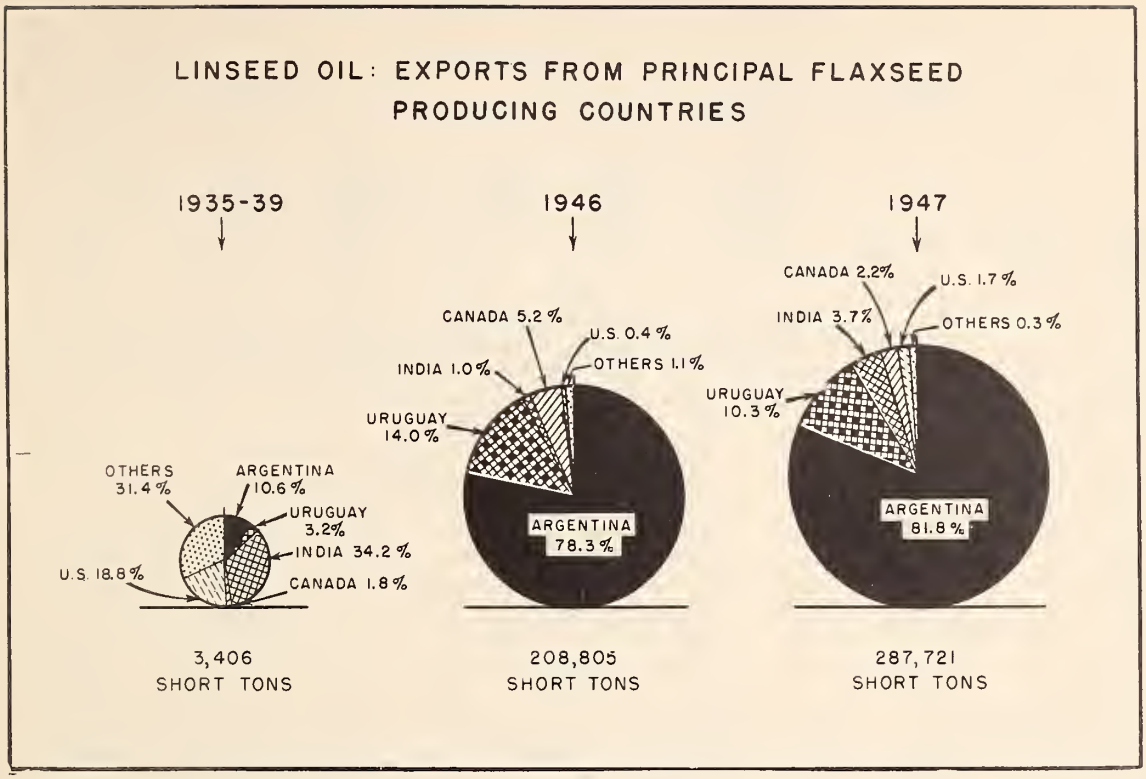


Chart 3.--Linseed oil: Exports from principal flaxseed producing countries.

North America

The United States turned out a record crop of approximately 53 million bushels to become the world's largest flaxseed producer, accounting for 36 percent of the world output. Acreage was 20 percent greater than in 1947 and production 30 percent greater. The yield of 11.1 bushels per acre was exceptionally high for the United States.

A goal of 3,026,000 planted acres, to produce 26.7 million bushels of flaxseed, was suggested for 1949. This goal, however, has been exceeded by a sizable margin. The September crop report indicated that production would be 41.6 million bushels.

Effective April 30, 1949, the Commodity Credit Corporation discontinued the purchase of 1948 crop flaxseed at price-supported levels. For the 1949 crop, price support is being offered through loans and purchase agreements at $3.99 per bushel, Minneapolis basis. (Flaxseed price support for the 1950 crop has been announced at 60 percent of the farm parity price as of April 1, 1950. This compares with 90 percent of parity for the 1949 crop.)

Canada's 1948 flaxseed crop amounted to 17.4 million bushels from 1.9 million acres. The oil content of this crop, as well as that of the United States crop, was exceptionally high.

Table 2.--FLAXSEED: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified

Continent and country	Harvested acreage					
	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/	Average 1935-39
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels
North America:						
Canada	307	1,059	841	1,571	1,934	4.9
Mexico	16	65	73	78	132	6.9
United States	1,451	3,785	2,432	4,030	4,737	7.6
Total	1,774	4,909	3,346	5,679	6,803	---
Europe:						
Austria 3/	5	7	5	6	8	7.1
Belgium 3/	75	60	78	69	74	8.9
Bulgaria	3/ 8	4/ 11	4/ 2	4/ 8	---	6.5
Czechoslovakia 3/	5/ 35	6/ 47	6/ 50	6/ 50	---	6.9
Denmark	---	6	3	23	45	---
Finland 3/ 7/	9	25	---	25	24	---
France 3/	92	93	81	81	84	5.0
Germany 3/	5/ 75	---	---	---	130	10.7
Greece	---	---	---	---	---	---
Hungary	28	5	8	---	---	10.3
Italy 3/	16	32	33	45	48	12.6
Netherlands 3/	42	23	31	33	48	13.0
Poland and Danzig 3/	5/ 158	---	55	100	203	10.0
Rumania 3/	42	82	50	32	37	6.5
Sweden	---	38	22	39	49	---
United Kingdom	5/ 2	11	11	38	80	---
Yugoslavia 3/	33	---	---	---	---	1.6
Total (excluding USSR) 8/	650	630	570	700	985	---
USSR (Europe and Asia) 3/	5/ 6,434	---	2,656	3,353	4,730	5.1
Asia:						
Turkey 3/	48	37	55	70	183	7.3
India 6/ 9/	3,885	3,465	3,334	3,259	3,338	4.7
Pakistan 10/	---	---	---	76	74	---
Japan 3/	50	95	67	75	64	4.2
Total (excl. USSR) and China 8/	4,075	3,820	3,680	3,710	3,925	---
South America:						
Argentina	6,077	3,420	3,798	3,339	2,330	9.8
Brazil	---	---	---	---	---	---
Chile 3/	11/ 5	12	13	13	17	8.2
Uruguay	407	592	300	551	522	9.6
Total 8/	6,570	4,115	4,205	3,975	2,940	---
Africa:						
Egypt 3/	7	7	4	11	22	12.4
French Morocco	51	93	32	74	121	7.1
Total 8/	65	115	90	90	215	---
Oceania:						
New Zealand	1	10	12	19	10	14.2
Total 8/	1	10	12	21	17	---
World total (excluding China)	19,570	15,840	14,560	17,530	19,615	---

1/ Harvests of the Northern Hemispheric countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemis- 1948 is combined with the harvest in the Southern Hemisphere that began late in 1948 and ended early combined plantings but excludes acreage planted for fiber production only. 5/ Average of less than 5 countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries. 9/ Officially reported when no estimates for unreported tracts were available. 10/ Prior to 1947 figures for India include fiber flax.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform

countries, by year of harvest, average 1935-39, annual 1945-48 1/

Yield per acre				Production				
1945	1946	1947	1948 2/	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/
Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
7.2	7.6	7.8	9.0	1,508	7,593	6,403	12,241	17,353
10.8	10.7	11.6	11.2	111	703	789	902	1,496
9.1	9.3	10.1	11.1	10,991	34,557	22,585	40,536	52,533
---	---	---	---	12,610	42,853	29,777	53,679	71,382
---	8.4	5.9	8.7	36	---	40	36	69
9.1	8.0	6.8	7.9	664	548	617	470	587
5.4	5.5	6.1	---	52	61	10	47	---
5.3	5.6	4.3	6.8	5/ 243	248	277	212	---
22.5	15.9	17.5	---	---	145	47	401	---
4.5	---	---	---	---	113	---	---	---
4.7	4.4	4.3	---	464	433	357	350	---
---	---	---	10.0	5/ 795	---	---	---	1,300
---	---	---	---	79	---	157	98	98
9.0	12.3	---	---	283	43	94	---	---
5.3	7.6	10.0	9.8	202	172	252	454	472
10.5	10.2	11.7	12.3	546	245	314	384	592
---	4.1	4.0	---	5/ 1,578	---	367	400	---
2.9	2.7	---	---	275	234	137	---	---
20.0	12.2	16.4	16.7	---	764	272	650	827
20.0	9.1	15.8	17.5	---	240	100	600	1,400
---	---	---	---	52	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	5,350	4,485	3,735	5,325	8,210
---	4.2	4.5	4.6	5/ 32,115	---	11,257	15,230	22,000
3.7	5.3	10.0	9.8	349	139	296	707	1,793
4.5	4.4	4.0	4.4	18,096	15,680	14,520	13,120	14,560
---	---	6.8	7.0	---	---	---	520	520
4.4	---	---	3.1	211	420	---	---	197
---	---	---	---	18,925	16,565	15,415	15,010	17,635
11.1	10.7	11.1	9.3	59,571	37,955	40,706	37,104	21,600
---	---	---	---	---	---	866	591	512
12.5	13.3	13.4	13.1	11/ 37	151	170	168	225
8.7	9.5	7.0	7.7	3,894	5,159	2,843	3,862	4,000
---	---	---	---	64,035	44,000	44,590	41,730	26,340
10.9	12.0	12.7	14.0	87	77	43	134	312
1.4	7.4	5.3	10.1	362	134	238	394	1,228
---	---	---	---	500	250	520	555	2,050
12/ 14.3	9.8	7.5	16.8	17	13/ 173	120	140	160
---	---	---	---	17	175	120	166	260
---	---	---	---	133,555	117,365	105,415	131,695	147,880

phere, that immediately follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemispheric countries in in 1949. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Acreage includes area for fiber. 4/ Includes acreage utilized for years. 6/ Sown area. 7/ Flax and hemp through 1945. 8/ Includes estimates for the above figures plus Indian official estimates for unreported tracts except in the years 1945-48 inclusive Pakistan. 11/ 1935 only. 12/ Yield calculated from seed acreage only. 13/ Includes seed from

foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other to present boundaries.

The Canadian Wheat Board purchased all Western flaxseed from the 1948 crop, basis Fort William/Port Arthur, at $4.00 per bushel, for No. 1 seed.

The Canadian Government advised farmers to reduce flaxseed plantings in 1949 and announced that there would be no support price for the 1949-50 crop. As a result, only 321,000 acres were planted to flaxseed in 1949. The latest production estimate is 2.3 million bushels, 13 percent of the 1948 harvest. The Wheat Board is offering No. 1 seed from the 1948 crop for export at $3.80 per bushel. This is 20 cents below the price the Board paid producers until the end of the 1948-49 season, July 31.

During the 1949-50 crop year, Western producers will have the option of marketing their flaxseed on the open market, and accepting the price available, or of delivering their seed to a voluntary pool operated by the Canadian Wheat Board. Producers selling through the Pool will receive an initial payment of $2.50 per bushel for the top grade, No. 1 C. W., with any further payments covered by participation certificates.

Mexican flaxseed production of approximately 1.5 million bushels in 1948 was a record for that country and exceeded the 1947 output by nearly two-thirds. The bulk of the 1948 flaxseed was grown in the Mexicali area, chiefly for export.

Europe

Preliminary estimates of 1948 flaxseed production in European countries indicate an increase of more than 50 percent over the figure for the preceding year. The greater outturn is attributed to acreage expansion and to favorable growing conditions.

The United Kingdom more than doubled both acreage and production in 1948. The 80,000 acres reported were cultivated for seed only and production amounted to 1.4 million bushels. Although the United Kingdom has made some progress in its flaxseed production program, the 1948 goal of 150,000 acres was not attained. Many farmers were reluctant to abandon cereal production in favor of flaxseed. The flaxseed goal for 1949 is 200,000 acres, and, in order to reach this figure, the Government has increased to 1,344 pounds the amount of oilcake that the linseed grower can purchase for each long ton of seed he delivers. In 1948 the grower could purchase 1 ton of cake for every 3 tons of seed delivered.

Asia

India's 1948 flaxseed crop of 14.6 million bushels was slightly larger than in each of the two previous years but considerably smaller than before the war. India is interested in increasing linseed oil output principally by developing new and improved varieties of flaxseed that have a higher oil content. The 1949 flaxseed crop is estimated at about 18 million bushels.

Turkey harvested 1.8 million bushels of flaxseed from 183,000 acres in 1948 compared with 707,000 bushels from 70,000 acres in 1947. This country has concentrated on flax for seed during the past 2 years. It is anticipated that flaxseed production will continue to expand since farmers in south Turkey, particularly in the Adana area, are finding it a profitable crop. The only apparent check to increased production would be continued high prices for wheat, with which flaxseed competes for acreage. Exports of flaxseed amounted to more than 1 million bushels during 1948, compared with 298,000 in 1947 and 72,000 in the prewar years.

South America

Argentina's 1948 flaxseed outturn, estimated at 21.6 million bushels, was the smallest in more than 30 years. Planted acreage was estimated at about 10 percent below that of 1947. Because of the unfavorable season the abandoned acreage is believed to have been at least 30 percent of the acreage planted. Both drought and frosts did considerable damage.

Despite this small crop, Argentina's linseed oil stocks appear to be excessive. Storage space is critical and crushing was curtailed drastically for several months. The IAPI has discontinued its payments to crushers for installation of additional storage tanks and has been reducing its export price quotation.

Argentina has not exported flaxseed since 1946, but, as a result of the Anglo-Argentine Agreement, Argentina, after July 1, 1950, is to supply the United Kingdom a quantity of flaxseed in the proportion of 30 percent of the total aggregate value of the United Kingdom's annual purchases of Argentine flaxseed and linseed oil. Linseed oil exports dropped to 58,500 tons in 1948 after reaching a high of 235,300 tons in the preceding year.

Chile harvested 225,000 bushels of flaxseed from 17,000 acres in 1948 and established a new record for that country.

Uruguay's 1948 flaxseed crop of 4.0 million bushels from 522,000 acres was considerably smaller than expected. The yield per acre on many farms was exceptionally small, and the average for the country was only 7.7 bushels, compared with the prewar average of 9.6 bushels. This crop provided an exportable surplus of about 2.3 million bushels, part of which was shipped as seed. Expanding livestock industries in Uruguay are providing a domestic market for some of the linseed cake and meal.

The Uruguayan Government paid farmers 240 pesos per metric ton ($3.42 per bushel, converted at the stipulated exchange rate of 1.78 pesos per United States dollar) for the 1948-49 flaxseed crop delivered at Montevideo. The price prevailed until early in June 1949. After that time the price was to be based on the international market price, and

farmers expected to be given the benefit of any increase. Farmers received 330 pesos per ton ($4.71 per bushel) for flaxseed from the 1947-48 crop. In contrast to the policy in recent years, no restrictions are placed on the export of flaxseed, linseed oil, or oilcake.

Africa

There was a substantial expansion in African flaxseed acreage in 1948. Algeria harvested 394,000 bushels of flaxseed from approximately 60,000 acres. Cultivation was negligible until the French expansion program became effective. All of the seed has been exported to France for crushing. Algeria's domestic requirements of linseed oil were formerly supplied by imports from France. The future of flaxseed as an Algerian crop will be influenced by the price at which France can obtain flaxseed and grain from other sources.

Egypt's flaxseed output of 312,000 bushels from 22,000 acres was more than double that of 1947. The 1949 crop is estimated at 300,000 bushels.

The extensive campaign sponsored by the Moroccan Flaxseed Pool brought satisfactory results to Morocco in 1948. More than 1 million bushels of flaxseed were harvested from 121,000 acres. A preliminary estimate for 1949 is 290,000 acres and 2.9 million bushels.

Oceania

Both Australia and New Zealand plan to increase flaxseed production. In New Zealand, acreage rose from 10,400 acres in 1945 to 19,000 in 1947 but dropped to 10,000 in 1948. This decline probably resulted from poor yields in 1947 when the crop received a severe set back by an attack from rust and by insufficient moisture. In addition to the flax grown for oil, about 25,000 bushels of seed from fiber flax may have been available for crushing during the 1948-49 season.

PROBLEMS OF MAJOR PRODUCING COUNTRIES

United States

The United States, with record stocks of flaxseed and with a 1949 crop that will exceed domestic consumption, has assumed a dominant position in the world situation. The shift from a deficit to a surplus position followed the rapid upswing of linseed oil prices in 1946 and the necessity that a supply of flaxseed be assured. A support price of $6.00 per bushel for No. 1 flaxseed, Minneapolis basis, for the 1947 and 1948 crops gave an incentive for the expansion of acreage in both the winter and spring flax areas. A relatively large crop was harvested in 1947, and favorable yields contributed to a record crop in 1948.

The consumption of all oils and fats by the drying oil industries in the United States has shown an upward trend since 1932. In 1941, 1947,

and 1948 the drying industries used in excess of 1 billion pounds. During the early 1920's, linseed oil accounted for more than 85 percent of the oils utilized. But, with improved methods for adapting other oils to drying oil purposes, as well as new uses for which other oils were better suited, the proportion of linseed oil consumed has declined. Total consumption of linseed oil fluctuated from year to year, and until 1947 represented at least 60 percent of the total quantity of drying oils consumed in the United States. In 1947 because of inadequate supplies and high prices, the use of linseed oil was only 50 percent of the total. The use of castor oil, oiticica oil, soybean oil, and tall oil has increased greatly in recent years.

Argentina

The immediate effect of high prices for linseed oil at the end of the war was to expand output of flaxseed in those areas where growers benefited and to discourage consumption. Although flaxseed production in Argentina declined, the country remains a potentially large supplier. Stocks on hand early in 1949 were abnormally high but could be absorbed readily by a normal world market. The decline of acreage can be attributed to Government price and production policy.

Because of its dominant position as the world's only large source of flaxseed and linseed oil in 1945 and 1946, Argentina was able to set the world price for linseed oil and define terms and conditions of sale. Sales were on the basis of agreements between governments. Prices and quantities of oil and meal were set by the IAPI. Although the policy was to export no seed, buyers of oil were frequently required to take cake or meal at a ratio of approximately 3 pounds of meal to 1 of oil. Linseed oil for consumption in the United States was purchased for 30 cents per pound f.o.b. Buenos Aires for delivery early in 1947. Other reported asking prices were at 3.5 pesos per kilogram or, at the then existing rate of exchange, about 47 cents per pound.

Despite the high export price for oil and meal, growers were paid set prices at the equivalent of only $2.65 per bushel, later reduced to $2.27 per bushel delivered Buenos Aires. These prices apparently were less attractive to producers than prices of grains and sunflower seed, and, as a consequence, acreage was reduced to about one-third of the prewar average.

The Argentine Government has adopted, temporarily at least, a policy to reduce the acreage of flaxseed and to expand the acreage of other crops. As prices of wheat and edible oilseeds become less attractive, preference could be given to the production of flaxseed. With return to an unrestricted movement of supplies and freely determined prices to growers, Argentina may again become the world's largest producer of surplus flaxseed. With continuation of controls, a reduction of the asking export price could move accumulated stocks of flaxseed and linseed

Table 3.--UNITED STATES: Wholesale prices of specified drying oils, July 1949 with comparisons

(Cents per pound)

Item	Average 1935-39	Annual 1945	December 1946	December 1947	December 1948	July 1949
Linseed oil 1/	9.2	14.3	34.8	33.0	27.0	24.1
Castor oil 2/	9.7	13.8	29.8	27.5	20.2	17.1
Castor oil 3/	---	17.9	36.0	30.0	22.7	21.0
Soybean oil 4/	6.8	11.8	24.6	26.2	17.3	9.7
Tung oil 5/	16.7	39.0	39.5	28.4	23.8	22.4

1/ Raw, tank cars, Minneapolis.
2/ No. 3, drums, carlots, New York.
3/ Dehydrated, tanks, New York.
4/ Crude, tank cars, midwestern mills.
5/ Drums, carlots, New York.

Compiled from records of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

oil. An increase in returns to producers more favorable from flaxseed than from alternate crops could quickly restore the Argentine output to the previous high level.

Argentina's normal annual domestic utilization of flaxseed has increased in recent years but at present probably does not exceed 10 million bushels. Consumption may increase in 1949, however, because of a higher rate of industrial activity.

Uruguay

Production in Uruguay has been fairly uniform. Flaxseed has apparently moved at favorable prices, and, as long as this situation exists, production is likely to be well maintained.

India and Pakistan

India's flaxseed production and exports, formerly significant in world markets, have shown no indication that the prewar pattern will be resumed. The growing population of India and the perennially acute food situation favor expansion of cereals at the expense of flaxseed. The 1948 crop was 14.6 million bushels, slightly larger than the 13.1 million bushels harvested in the preceding year, but 20 percent smaller than the 1935-39 average. Even more significant was the drop in flaxseed exports to less than 2 million bushels, compared with 10 million annually in the 1930's. While 1948 linseed oil shipments were 13,200 tons, or the equivalent of 1.4 million bushels of seed, total oil and seed exports from India were only one-third of the prewar average.

Table 4.--UNITED STATES: Oils and fats utilized in drying oil products, 1948 with comparisons

(Short tons)

Year	Linseed oil 1/	Perilla oil 2/	Tung oil 2/	Oiticica oil 2/	Castor oil 3/	Fish oil 4/	Soybean oil 5/	Other primary fats and oils 6/	Tall oil and secondary fatty materials 7/	Total	Percent of linseed oil to total
Average:											
1921-25	327,070	1,833	35,255		697	7,271	3,190			375,317	87
1926-30	358,799	2,918	48,142		1,129	9,759	1,985			422,732	85
1931-35	209,572	14,002	51,250		1,255	12,998	7,167	1,367		297,611	70
1936-40	269,876	26,569	52,988	4,622	5,526	20,758	13,952	2,025		396,316	68
Annual:											
1941	404,321	4,288	34,257	13,393	23,148	28,269	31,205	1,823		540,704	75
1942	410,126	1,366	8/ 5,915	8/ 4,598	31,378	15,890	16,711	978		486,962	84
1943	378,847	995	8/ 6,023	8/ 1,801	12,496	17,094	19,487	786	8,265	445,794	85
1944	344,187	8/ 245	8/ 5,054	5,370	45,018	23,589	18,324	700	16,837	459,324	75
1945	319,820	8/ 96	11,336	9,695	33,329	28,626	22,878	1,286	19,065	446,131	72
1946	334,115	8/ 39	17,816	12,622	19,117	23,182	33,462	2,558	27,228	470,139	71
1947	283,768	8/ 16	53,038	6,353	21,751	22,473	79,404	2,857	37,640	507,300	56
1948 9/	297,730	8/ 8	64,870	6,558	28,939	17,593	81,076	3,369	10/ 40,877	541,020	55

1/ 1921-30, total domestic disappearance; 1931-48, total domestic disappearance minus (1) factory consumption in food products and soap, (2) 15 percent of factory consumption in miscellaneous products, and (3) loss, if any. 2/ 1921-30, total domestic disappearance; 1931-48, total domestic disappearance minus (1) factory consumption (if any) in food products and soap and (2) loss. 3/ 1921-30, 4 percent of total domestic disappearance; 1931-48, factory consumption in drying oil industries with the addition, beginning 1942, of 10 percent of use in miscellaneous products. This use is estimated as factory consumption in miscellaneous products plus the difference between total domestic disappearance and total factory consumption in all products. 4/ 1921-30, 20 percent of total domestic disappearance; 1931-48, factory consumption in drying oil industries plus 1 percent of use in miscellaneous products, 1931-41, and 6.5 percent of such use in 1942-48. Use in miscellaneous products is estimated as factory consumption in these products plus the difference between total domestic disappearance and total factory consumption in all products. 5/ 1921-30, 25 percent of total domestic disappearance; 1931-48, factory consumption in paints, varnishes, linoleum, oilcloth, and printing inks, plus 55 percent of factory consumption in miscellaneous products. 6/ Factory consumption in paints, varnishes, floor coverings, oilcloth, and printing inks. 7/ Factory consumption in paints, varnishes, floor coverings, printing inks, core oil, resins, insulation, hydraulic brake fluid, linings, packings, and oilcloth and other coated fabrics. 8/ Factory consumption. 9/ Preliminary. 10/ Partly estimated.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Compiled in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from reports of Bureau of the Census and Fish and Wildlife Service.

The economy of India and the newly formed state of Pakistan may develop so that the need for exports to obtain foreign exchange will place emphasis on production of flaxseed and oil for export. In any case, supplies from these areas are too small to determine the course of world prices.

The average annual consumption of linseed oil by India's 31 paint factories is about 12,000 tons, but consumption in 1948 was probably smaller. An acute shortage of building materials and the consequent limited structural development led to reduced general demand for paints and varnishes during the year. In view of the progressive expansion of the paint industry in India, domestic consumption of linseed oil is expected to increase appreciably in coming years when larger supplies of building materials probably will become available. Sizable quantities of linseed oil are now used in the manufacture of soap and to a lesser degree in the production of edible products.

Canada

Canada's record crop of 1948 was partly the result of favorable weather and partly in response to a floor price of $4.00 per bushel. Returns from the 1947 crop, with an assured price of $5.50 per bushel, were favorable to continued acreage expansion. The high support price in the United States and high export prices for Argentine linseed oil indicated a continuation of flaxseed prices well above $4.00 per bushel. The inability to export all of the surplus from the 1948 crop and the removal of the support price for the 1949 crop have resulted in a drastic reduction in Canada's acreage.

Mexico

Mexico's small surplus of flaxseed was a wartime development primarily for sale to United States crushers. Inability to sell in the United States in 1948 and 1949 and a decline from the peak of postwar prices may reduce production to prewar levels.

OUTLOOK

Flaxseed growers and linseed oil industries in 1949 are faced with problems of adjustment of price and production. The situation is one in which surplus producing countries are burdened with excessive stocks. Countries that would normally import linseed oil are utilizing only a small percentage of the oil they could consume. The low level of trade is explained in large measure by the fact that 90 percent of the available export supplies are held in the Western Hemisphere, normally dollar areas, and because of the acute shortage of dollars in the countries needing flaxseed and linseed oil.

The quantity of linseed oil required by the United States in the past has been closely associated with general industrial and construction ac-

tivity. Presumably the program of construction and reconstruction in Europe will require large quantities of drying oils. Recent experience in the United States indicates that the drying industries' inability to obtain linseed oil at competitive prices has contributed to expansion in their use of other oils. Nevertheless, a large potential demand for flaxseed and linseed oil does exist in Europe, and with restoration of buying power in European countries and modification of the pricing policies in the major exporting countries--the United States and Argentina--current stocks and prospective production could be largely absorbed within the next 2 years. The possibility of maintaining a normal balance between supplies and consumption after 1951 will depend on the management of flaxseed programs in the major producing countries in relation to world trade conditions.

APPENDIX

Table 5.--FLAXSEED AND LINSEED OIL: Exports (in terms of oil) from specified countries, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 6.--FLAXSEED AND LINSEED OIL: Imports (in terms oil) into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 7.--FLAXSEED: Exports from specified countries, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 8.--FLAXSEED: Imports into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 9.--LINSEED OIL: Exports from specified countries, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 10.--LINSEED OIL: Imports into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 11.--FLAXSEED AND LINSEED OIL: Net imports (in terms of oil) into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 12.--ARGENTINA: Flaxseed and linseed oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 13.--CANADA: Flaxseed and linseed oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 14.--INDIA: Flaxseed and linseed oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 15.--MEXICO: Flaxseed exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 16.--UNITED STATES: Flaxseed and linseed oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons.
Table 17.--URUGUAY: Flaxseed and linseed oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons.

Table 5

FLAXSEED AND LINSEED OIL: Exports (in terms of oil) from specified countries, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 1/
			(Short tons)		
North America:					
United States	640	4,088	1,003	5,082	30,522
Canada	529	20,994	11,082	8,058	66,848
Mexico	2/ 19	918	2,651	9,629	11,590
Total	1,188	26,000	14,736	22,769	108,960
Europe:					
Belgium-Luxembourg	7,689		3/ 22	1,328	1,957
Czechoslovakia	2/ 410				
Denmark	145			327	1,072
France	9,830	9	124	932	
Italy	207			66	
Latvia	2/ 1,095				
Lithuania	9,301				
Netherlands	88,007		627	2,112	4,905
Sweden	138	987	685	333	
Switzerland	412			46	85
United Kingdom	13,278	558	487	167	
Others	1,935	373	74	49	
Total	132,447	1,927	2,019	5,360	8,019
Asia:					
China	6,322		1		105
India	93,547	77,327	33,275	3/ 28,610	28,483
Japan	770				
Turkey	685	3,160	3,361	2,835	9,967
Total	101,324	80,487	36,637	31,445	38,555
Africa	3,281	960	2,246	665	935
South America:					
Argentina	563,725	101,492	178,050	235,296	58,508
Uruguay	30,374	18,901	59,714	37,617	36,747
Others	487	117			
Total	594,586	120,510	237,764	272,913	95,255
Oceania	165	124	137	300	410
Grand total	832,991	230,008	293,539	333,452	252,134

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Average of less than 5 years. 3/ Incomplete.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 6

FLAXSEED AND LINSEED OIL: Imports (in terms of oil) into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 1/
		(Short tons)			
North America:					
United States	176,190	69,840	79,513	61,348	12,127
Canada	10,555	97	78	144	188
Cuba	1,338	1,654	835	1,535	2/ 855
Mexico	450	21	1,925	145	18
Total	188,533	71,612	82,351	63,172	13,188
Europe:					
Austria	3/ 5,407				2/ 642
Belgium-Luxembourg	41,420	4,885	11,503	10,009	19,153
Czechoslovakia	3/ 8,997			476	
Denmark	8,416		447	1,552	220
Eire	2,100	1,374	2,338	2,539	1,308
Finland	6,479	165	1,155	124	2/ 3,575
France	89,295	10,453	28,346	41,936	34,228
Germany	3/ 97,624			50	2/ 4,841
Greece	1,542			305	
Italy	24,497		238	3,084	5,792
Netherlands	124,603		18,102	25,503	22,675
Norway	9,504	790	4,560	2,669	11,800
Portugal	3/ 3,106	1,618	922	162	2,842
Spain	3/ 5,588	5,750	514	112	266
Sweden	20,196	2,484	9,791	12,244	1,970
Switzerland	6,323	57	3,673	4,354	2,641
United Kingdom	139,070	63,103	107,141	140,446	59,169
Others	4,612	226		343	
Total	598,779	90,905	188,730	245,908	171,122
Asia	13,869	556	563	275	6,075
Africa	6,060	5,865	4,000	5,034	2/ 4,887
South America	8,001	1,950	1,785	918	975
Oceania	16,970	18,119	15,628	7,438	13,583
Grand total	832,212	189,007	293,057	322,745	209,830

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Incomplete.
3/ Average of less than 5 years.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 7

FLAXSEED: Exports from specified countries, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 1/
			(1,000 bushels)		
North America:					
United States	2/	11	20	16	1,650
Canada	49	1,182	33	196	4,556
Mexico	3/ 1	93	175	553	1,160
Total	50	1,286	228	765	7,366
Europe:					
Belgium-Luxembourg	182			87	177
Denmark	13			17	102
Latvia	3/ 115				
Lithuania	977				
Netherlands	206		61	185	211
Total	1,493		61	289	490
Asia:					
India	9,736	7,652	3,280	4/ 1,876	1,607
China	664				11
Turkey	72	332	353	298	1,047
Total	10,472	7,984	3,633	2,174	2,665
Africa (total)	3/ 343		2		98
South America:					
Argentina	59,177	5,300	1,534		
Uruguay	3,179	1,380	3,188	843	729
Total	62,356	6,680	4,722	843	729
Grand total	74,714	15,950	8,646	4,071	11,348

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Not separately classified until July 1941.
3/ Average of less than 5 years.
4/ Incomplete.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 8

FLAXSEED: Imports into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 1/
	(1,000 bushels)				
North America:					
United States	18,470	3,796	3,394	282	1,066
Canada	993	1	2		15
Total	19,463	3,797	3,396	282	1,081
Europe:					
Belgium-Luxembourg	4,173		2	1	979
Czechoslovakia	945		50		
Denmark	884		47	163	2
Finland	255		30	13	3/ 62
France	9,346	284	1,511	433	1,775
Germany	2/ 7,890				
Greece	162				
Italy	2,443		25	317	474
Netherlands	13,082		500	562	1,030
Norway	900	83	49	8	1,130
Portugal	2/ 234	170		9	3/ 165
Spain	2/ 587	604	53	13	28
Sweden	1,817	258	381	178	75
United Kingdom	11,366	5,692	4,179	1,608	767
Total	54,084	7,091	6,827	3,305	6,487
Asia:					
India	496				
Japan	418				4/ 531
Total	914				531
South America (total)	1,106	208	125	4/ 106	4/ 25
Oceania:					
Australia	1,339	1,740	1,501	637	540
Grand total	76,906	12,836	11,849	4,330	8,664

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Average of less than 5 years.
3/ Incomplete.
4/ Based on exports from producing countries.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 9

LINSEED OIL: Exports from specified countries, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 1/
			(Short tons)		
North America:					
United States	640	3,983	813	4,927	14,818
Canada	62	9,741	10,768	6,192	23,475
Total	702	13,724	11,581	11,119	38,293
Europe:					
Belgium-Luxembourg	5,957		2/ 22	500	272
Czechoslovakia	3/ 410				
Denmark	21			165	101
France	9,830	9	121	708	
Italy	207				
Netherlands	86,046		47	351	2,893
Sweden	155	921	679	219	
United Kingdom	13,278	558	487	167	
Total	115,904	1,488	1,356	2,176	3,266
Asia:					
India	1,165	4,480	2,049	2/ 10,749	13,184
British Malaya	58				38
Japan	770				
Total	1,993	4,480	2,049	10,749	13,222
Africa (total)	76		2,227	665	
South America:					
Argentina	360	51,036	163,446	235,296	58,508
Uruguay	3/ 110	5,764	29,365	29,592	29,807
Total	470	56,800	192,811	264,888	88,315
Oceania (total)	165	124	137	300	410
Grand total	119,310	76,616	210,161	289,897	143,506

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Incomplete.
3/ Average of less than 5 years.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 10

LINSEED OIL: Imports into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 1/
	(Short tons)				
North America:					
United States	356	33,707	47,203	58,663	1,979
Canada	1,102	83	59	144	45
Cuba	1,338	1,654	835	1,535	2/ 855
Total	2,796	35,449	48,097	60,342	2,879
Europe:					
Austria	3/ 5,407				4/ 642
Belgium-Luxembourg	1,693	3,038	11,484	10,000	9,833
Bulgaria	539				
Eire	3/ 63	840	1,546	1,900	1,308
Finland	4,051	165	869		4/ 2,985
France	321	7,749	13,961	37,816	17,330
Germany	3/22,511			4/ 50	4/ 4,841
Italy	1,240			66	1,280
Netherlands	62		13,342	20,153	12,870
Norway	936		4,094	2,593	1,041
Portugal	878		922	76	4/ 1,271
Sweden	2,898	28	6,164	10,550	1,256
Switzerland	6,323	57	3,673	4,354	2,641
United Kingdom	30,866	8,915	67,357	125,138	51,867
Total	77,793	20,792	123,412	212,696	109,165
Asia:					
British Malaya	808		48	380	243
China	514		86	102	43
India	540				
Indonesia	2,260				2/ 474
Philippines	1,030			173	4/ 260
Total	5,152		134	655	1,020
Africa:					
Algeria	1,424				
Egypt	507			34	
Union of South Africa	4,128	2,175	4,000	5,000	4/ 4,887
Total	6,059	2,175	4,000	5,034	4,887
South America (total)	1,314	823	571	343	4/ 735
Oceania:					
Australia	926	5		389	6,358
New Zealand	3,296	1,554	1,338	1,374	2/ 2,084
Total	4,222	1,559	1,338	1,763	8,442
Grand total	97,336	60,798	177,552	280,833	127,128

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Incomplete. 3/ Average of less than 5 years.
4/ Based on exports from producing countries.
Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 11

FLAXSEED AND LINSEED OIL: Net imports 1/ (in terms of oil) into specified countries, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/
	(Short tons)				
North America:					
United States	175,550	65,752	78,510	56,266	-18,395
Canada	10,026	-20,897	-11,004	-7,914	-66,660
Cuba	1,338	1,654	835	1,535	3/ 855
Mexico	431	-897	-726	-9,484	-11,572
Total	187,345	45,612	67,615	40,403	-95,772
Europe:					
Austria	4/ 5,407				3/ 642
Belgium-Luxembourg	33,731	4,885	11,481	8,681	17,196
Czechoslovakia	4/ 8,587			476	
Denmark	8,271		447	1,225	-852
Eire	2,100	1,374	2,338	2,539	1,308
France	79,465	10,444	28,222	41,004	34,228
Finland	6,479	165	1,155	124	3/3,575
Germany	4/ 97,624			3/ 50	3/4,841
Greece	1,542			305	
Italy	24,290		238	3,018	5,792
Latvia	4/ -1,095				
Lithuania	-9,301				
Netherlands	36,596		17,475	23,391	17,770
Norway	9,504	790	4,560	2,669	11,800
Portugal	4/ 3,106	1,618	922	162	2,842
Spain	4/ 5,588	5,750	514	112	266
Sweden	20,058	1,497	9,106	11,911	1,970
Switzerland	5,911	57	3,673	4,308	2,556
United Kingdom	125,792	62,545	106,654	140,279	59,169
Others	2,677	-147	-74	294	
Total	466,332	88,978	186,711	240,548	163,103
Asia:					
China	-5,812		85	102	-62
India	-88,285	-77,327	-33,275	3/-28,610	-28,483
Japan	3,209				
Turkey	-685	-3,160	-3,361	-2,835	-9,967
Others	4,118	556	563	275	6,075
Total	-87,455	-79,931	-35,988	-31,068	-32,437
Africa	2,779	4,905	1,754	4,369	3/ 3,952
South America:					
Argentina	-563,725	-101,492	-178,050	-235,296	-58,508
Uruguay	-30,374	-18,901	-59,714	-37,617	-36,747
Others	7,514	1,833	1,785	918	3/ 975
Total	-586,585	-118,560	-235,979	-271,995	-94,280
Oceania	16,805	17,995	15,491	7,138	13,173

1/ Minus (-) sign indicates net exports. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Incomplete.
4/ Average of less than 5 years.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 12

ARGENTINA: Flaxseed and linseed-oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Flaxseed 1/				Linseed oil 2/			
	Average 1935-39	1944	1945	1946	1945	1946	1947	1948 3/
	(1,000 bushels)				(1,000 short tons)			
North and Central America:								
Canada	1,823						1	
United States	16,475	416	928	431	38	31	54	
Other countries	26	6	2					
Total	18,324	422	930	431	38	31	55	
South America	596	137						
Europe:								
Belgium-Luxembourg	4,592		146	32		14		1
Czechoslovakia	512							2
Denmark	818					1	1	
Finland	219							2
France	7,441		580	121		18	31	10
Germany	3,515							4/
Italy	1,981							
Netherlands	14,297		1,574	102	5	12	9	4/
Norway	729		84	49	1	3	3	
Portugal	136	62						
Spain	205	166	275			4		2
Sweden	1,488	925	345	145		6	4	
Switzerland	24	158	71					
United Kingdom	3,602	6,190	1,295	633	6	58	129	41
Yugoslavia	191							
Others	96				1			1
Total	39,846	7,501	4,370	1,082	13	116	177	59
Africa	20	120					3	
Others	391	2,654		21		16		
Grand total	59,177	10,834	5,300	1,534	51	163	235	59

1/ No flaxseed was exported during 1947 and 1948.
2/ Linseed-oil exports during 1935-39 averaged only 360 tons.
3/ Preliminary.
4/ Less than 500 short tons.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 13

CANADA: Flaxseed and linseed oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Flaxseed 1/				Linseed oil 1/			
	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/
	(1,000 bushels)				(Short tons)			
North and Central America:								
British West Indies					545	253	426	582
Netherlands W. Indies					34			119
Newfoundland					366	276	255	379
Panama					57	9		7
United States	1,174	18	37	537	3,103	5,764	2,885	1,763
Others		1			162	1	21	396
Total	1,174	19	37	537	4,267	6,303	3,587	3,246
South America					402	173	164	724
Europe:								
Belgium-Luxembourg	6		55	890	1,263	1,747		475
Czechoslovakia							266	
France		13	3	371	1,367	871	420	
Germany								1,066
Netherlands				607	486	192		4,457
Norway				1,121			111	
Portugal				165				1,271
Switzerland			2	86				1,104
United Kingdom	2	1	98	213	1,100	1,151	648	3,985
Others				261	22	82		302
Total	8	14	158	3,714	4,238	4,043	1,445	12,660
Asia				220				1,132
Africa			1	4	460	185	49	4,407
New Zealand				81	372		935	1,306
Others					2	64	12	
Grand total	1,182	33	196	4,556	9,741	10,768	6,192	23,475

1/ Exports of flaxseed and linseed oil during 1935-39 averaged 49,000 bushels and 62 tons, respectively.
2/ Preliminary.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 14

INDIA: Flaxseed and linseed-oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Flaxseed				Linseed oil			
	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	1948 1/	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	1948 1/
	(1,000 bushels)				(Short tons)			
North and Central America:								
Canada	55							
United States	440		2	2				17
Total	495		2	2				17
Europe:								
Belgium-Luxembourg	84		6	5			27	45
France	250		1	10			44	170
Germany	368							
Greece	145							
Italy	87		6	6			81	1,280
Netherlands	72			7			28	810
Sweden								168
Switzerland			79	52			71	506
United Kingdom	6,912	2,240	1,414	729			3,603	1,725
Others	19		4	26			151	342
Total	7,937	2,240	1,510	835			4,005	5,046
Asia:								
Burma					257		267	87
Ceylon					65	37	147	
China							11	90
Pakistan							48	133
Singapore							40	169
Others			4		201		920	
Total			4		523	37	1,433	479
Africa	432		6	2		1,359	445	572
Oceania:								
Australia	776	880	354	763			2,744	6,120
New Zealand				5			248	261
Total	776	880	354	768			2,992	6,381
Others	96	160			642	653	1,374	639
Grand total	9,736	3,280	1,876	1,607	1,165	2,049	10,749	13,184

1/ Preliminary.
Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 15

MEXICO: Flaxseed exports 1/ by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/
	(bushels)			
North America:				
United States	93,458	174,542	267,269	525,718
Europe:				
France			73,027	158,692
Ireland				39,998
Netherlands			213,059	232,979
Portugal				62,556
Total			286,086	494,225
Asia:				
Japan				140,110
Grand total	93,458	174,542	553,355	1,160,053

1/ Flaxseed exports during 1935-39 averaged 934 bushels.
2/ Preliminary.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 16

UNITED STATES: Flaxseed and linseed-oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Flaxseed 1/			Linseed oil 2/		
	1946	1947	1948 3/	1946	1947	1948 3/
	(Bushels)			(Short tons)		
North and Central America:						
Canada	19	2,554	14,024	93	224	55
Cuba	50	105	361	280	285	347
El Salvador				17	77	15
Mexico	3,091	3,164	1,849	7	6	22
Panama, Republic of	77	50	28	4	3	15
Others	113	99	360	99	273	257
Total	3,350	5,972	16,622	500	868	711
South America:						
Colombia	63		45	19	70	217
Venezuela	114	28	49	57	257	147
Others	101	28	9	58	117	177
Total	278	56	103	134	444	541
Europe:						
Austria	15,353				10	642
Belgium-Luxembourg					2,122	1
France			721,600		19	4,418
Germany					50	3,775
Greece					8	496
Iceland	43	78	34	56	45	5
Netherlands			600,011		628	2,211
Switzerland	400					27
United Kingdom		7,418				3
Others				4	143	109
Total	15,796	7,496	1,321,645	60	3,025	11,687
Asia:						
Japan			310,984			304
Philippines, Republic of	241	18	7	60	73	260
Others				7	65	365
Total	241	18	310,991	67	138	929
Oceania		800	202	6	14	20
Africa	2	1,897	20	46	438	930
Grand total	19,667	16,239	1,649,583	813	4,927	14,818

1/ Flaxseed exports not separately classified until July 1941.
2/ Linseed oil exports averaged 640 tons during 1935-39.
3/ Preliminary.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Table 17

URUGUAY: Flaxseed and linseed-oil exports by country of destination, 1948 with comparisons

Continent and country	Flaxseed					Linseed oil 1/			
	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/	1945	1946	1947	1948 2/
	(1,000 bushels)					(Short tons)			
North and Central America:									
Cuba		3/	3/			925	988	274	159
Mexico							2,141		
United States	113	1,054	2,218			2,099	4,651		
Total	113	1,054	2,218			3,024	7,780	274	159
South America	1,570	68	125	8	24	1,401	1,181	316	113
Europe:									
Belgium-Luxemburg	133					48	1,145	4,941	1,776
Czechoslovakia							1,546	1,302	197
Denmark	12		44	185			474	110	
Finland				26			243	441	937
France	37	80	391	39			606	3,321	1,742
Germany	70							476	
Italy	38			28			1,102	1,231	
Netherlands	150		400	397			2,135	1,753	4,529
Norway	25						604		
Portugal	119					474	564	1,026	1,574
Sweden	1			121			1,497	3,796	
Switzerland		2	8	15	1		1,453	2,292	66
United Kingdom	17				704	385		6	11,555
Others		175	1			41	968	3,078	1,454
Total	602	257	844	811	705	948	12,337	23,773	23,830
Africa						183	163	2,797	810
Asia	19			24			105	247	218
Oceania							325	2,020	4,439
Others	875	1	1			208	4/7,474	165	238
Grand total	3,179	1,380	3,188	843	729	5,764	29,365	29,592	29,807

1/ Linseed oil exports during 1935-39 averaged 110 tons.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Less than 500 bushels.
4/ 6,735 tons to the Soviet Union.

Blank indicates quantity, if any, is unknown.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.